Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1265

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: BEXP XA

SUBJECT: SOVIET-MALIAN AGREEMENT ON GOLD EXTRACTION, MALI

- 1. ON 15 APRIL, MALI MINISTER INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS MAMADY KEITA AND SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO MALI YURIY ZOLOTOV SIGNED CONTRACT 73090/2 FOR SOVIET EXTRACTION OF GOLD AT KALANA (SOUTHERN MALI-NEAR GUINEA BORDER). KEITA PROVIDED FOLLOWING DETAILS DURING SIGNING.
- 2. SOVIETS CONFIRMED IN JULY 1972 ITS AGREED TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE UP TO 3 MILLION ROUBLES. THE FIRST CONTRACT FOR PROJECT EXECUTION, SIGNED APRIL 1973, WAS FOLLOWED BY TECHNICAL SURVEY CONDUCTED BY SOVIET INSTITUTE "GREDMET." THE TOTAL COST FOR ENTIRE PROJECT ROSE TO 11.2 MILLION ROUBLES. THE SOVIETS AGREED IN DECEMBER TO PROVIDE 7 MILLION ROUBLE STATE CREDIT AND 1.5 MILLION COMMERCIAL CREDIT. DURING APRIL 5-11, 1975, FOLLOWING PROGRAM WAS DECIDED:

A. FIRST PHASE-DETAILED PROSPECTING WITH ANNUAL PRODUCTION OF 25,000 TONS OF ORE. THE FIRST STAGE WILL INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF INCLINED WELLS AND CROSS SHAFTS, CONSTRUCTION OF INDUSTRIAL SITE AND TEMPORARY WORKERS LODGINGS. THE FIRST STAGE OF TWO YEARS WILL COST 4 MILLION ROUBLES. THE SECOND STAGE, WHICH WILL INCLUDE SINKING OF VERTICAL SHAFTS AND CONSTRUCTION OF PERMANENT WORKERS LODGINGS, WILL COST 5.7 MILLION ROUBLES.

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B. SECOND PHASE OF EXPLOITATION, WHICH WILL INCLUDE

ANNUAL PRODUCTION OF 60,000 TONS OF ORE AND THE EXPANSION OF THE TREATMENT PLANT WITH THE ADDITION OF A CYANIDATION UNIT, WILL COST 1.5 MILLION ROUBLES.

3. THE CONTRACT SIGNED 15 APRIL COVERS THE FIRST STAGE OF 4
MILLION ROUBLES (2,480,000,000 MALIAN FRANCS OR APPROX 5.9
MILLION DOLLARS). THE TOTAL PROJECT COST IS 11.2
MILLION ROUBLES (7 BILLION MALIAN FRANCS OR APPROX 16.6 MILLION DOLLARS). THE PROJECT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED UNDER THE
DIRECTION OF SONAREM (SOCIETE NATIONALE DE RECHERCHES ET
D'EXPLOITATION MINERES).
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